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FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
OF THE
ROTHWELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Fifteenth Annual Report for the year ending 1906.

The Vital Statistics of the District may be taken as follows :

Area of Sanitary District, 3476 acres.
Population estimated at 5100.
Density of Population, 1·46.
Births, 135. Males, 69 ; Females, 66.
Birth rate, 26·4 per 1000.
Increase of Population, 18·43 per 1000.
Deaths, 41. Males, 24 ; Females, 17.
Death rate, 8·03.
Deaths under one year of age, 11.
Death rate under one year, 81·4 per 1000 births.

The following were the chief causes of death as returned to the Registrar :

Apoplexy	...	...	...	...	7
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	5
Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	2
Cyanosis	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	2
Kidney Disease	...	...	...	...	2
Atrophy	...	...	...	...	2
Inflammation of Lungs	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Softening	...	...	...	...	2
Other causes	...	...	...	...	13
					41

The following list will give the ages at which these deaths occurred ;

Under 1 year of age	...	...	11
Over 1 and under 5 years	...	...	2
Over 5 and under 15 years	...	...	2
Over 15 and under 25 years	...	...	2
Over 25 and under 65 years	...	...	12
Over 65 years	...	...	12
			41

HEALTH OF THE TOWN :

This is the most satisfactory report that I have ever sent in, the Death rate—8·03—being by far the lowest we have ever had, in fact it stands very nearly being a record. But even more gratifying is the infant mortality. Last year we had 22 deaths under one year of age, giving an infant mortality of 180·32 per 1000 births. This year we have only 11 deaths under one year of age, giving an infant mortality of only 81·4 per 1000 births. The Urban Council have every reason to be congratulated on the improved Sanitary state of the town, when we compare the Death rate of ten years ago with that of to-day.

In the year 1896 the Death rate was 18·9.

In the year 1906 the Death rate is 8·03.

These figures speak for themselves.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES :—

Scarlet Fever.—During the year 18 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. These were mostly of a very mild type, only one death resulting. In every case the strictest precautions were taken, and at no time was there anything approaching an epidemic. These cases occurred during the following months :

January	...	...	6	April	...	...	2
February	...	...	1	May	...	...	1
March	...	.	5	July	..	...	2
			November	...	...		1

Measles—There were a few cases of Measles during the year, but all of a very mild form, no deaths resulting.

Puerperal Fever.—One case of Puerperal Fever was notified.

Mumps.—Several cases of Mumps occurred during the early part of the winter. It is always difficult to stop the spread of this complaint, as in the great majority of cases a Doctor is not called in till after the child has had it for several days, and so has been able to communicate it to others.

Phthisis.—Two deaths were recorded as having occurred from this disease. Considering that the town has a population of over 5000, this is a very satisfactory result.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION :—

The house accommodation of the town is very satisfactory, only four houses, situated on the Kettering Road, were condemned as unfit for habitation. There is a very marked improvement in the state of the dwellings generally.

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE :—

This is very satisfactory. Some seven or eight years ago the town was thoroughly re-drained, and the filter beds are working satisfactorily.

REMOVAL OF REFUSE :—

Public scavengers go round the town with a cart at stated times, and collect the refuse, which is placed in boxes, set outside the doors on the day the cart is expected. I would recommend that the boxes remain in the back yards, and that the scavengers remove them to the carts from there, instead of having them placed out in the streets, as the boxes are somewhat unsightly, and in windy weather bits of paper, and other refuse are apt to get blown about.

WATER SUPPLY :—

The water supply is excellent, it has been laid on all over the town, so that every householder who wishes, can have a good supply of water, both for drinking and household purposes.

MILK SUPPLY :—

In no case has any infectious disease been traced to the milk supply. The cowsheds are inspected by the Veterinary Surgeon to the Council.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES :

These have been visited from time to time and have been found in a satisfactory condition.

BAKEHOUSES :—

These were all found to be satisfactory. We have no underground bakehouses in the town.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS :—

All the factories and as many of the workshops as could be found have been inspected. In the great majority of cases they were found to be in a satisfactory condition. In one or two cases the closets were not properly flushed, in these cases steps were taken to have the defects remedied.

DISTRICT NURSE :—

The District Nurse has been one of the greatest benefits to the town. We are fortunate in having an excellent Nurse, who is always willing to render every assistance in her power both to the patients under her charge, and to the Doctors in attendance.

In conclusion I must offer my best thanks to the Surveyor, Mr. T. Betts, and to the Deputy Clerk, Mr. W. Tozer, for the willing help which they have always rendered me when required.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

February, 1907.

J. MORE, M.O.H.

